

M.W.
THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF

ABERDARE

ANNUAL

REPORT



OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1957

BY

J. LI. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Lond.)

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HEALTH COMMITTEE.

DATE OF MEETING :—Last Tuesday in each month at 7 p.m.

CHAIRMAN :-

Councillor Mrs. S. Morgan.

MEMBERS :

Councillor Clifford Edwards	Councillor G. R. Pritchard, B.E.M
J. M. Powell	Thomas Morse
Sydney S. Reed	Mrs. M. Morris
D. D. Morgan	Roger J. Evans
Thomas Jones	David W. Griffiths
Trevor Williams	Peter Egan.
Jabez Jones	

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS, 1957.

Medical Officer of Health	J. Ll. Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Lond.)
Senior Public Health Inspector	Daniel Richards, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Public Health Inspectors	Trevor Walters, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
	John F. Jones, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.
	Norman P. Jones, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Deceased 16.8.1957).
	Evan P. Evans, M.R.S.H. (Commenced 30.7.1957).
Pupil Public Health Inspector	Bernard C. Taylor
Clerical Staff—	
Chief Clerk	David R. Williams, A.I.Hsg., M.R.I.P.H.H.
Second Clerk	Emrys S. Evans.
Clerk	William J. Bureau.
Shorthand Typist	Mrs. Stella H. Lloyd.

Public Health Department

Rock Grounds,

Aberdare.

Tel. No. Aberdare 441.

1st October, 1958.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ABERDARE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions of the district, and of the work carried out by your Officers of the Public Health Department, together with the vital and other statistics for the year 1957. This report has been prepared on the lines laid down in Circular 1/58 (Wales) of the Welsh Board of Health.

I would like to express to the Council my appreciation of the interest shown by the Members in matters affecting Public Health. I wish also, to express my sincere thanks for the help I have received from Mr. James, the Clerk of the Council, and the Council's Chief Officers, the Senior Public Health Inspector—Mr. Daniel Richards, the Public Health Inspectors, to Mr. D. R. Williams, Chief Clerk, and the Clerical Staff for their loyal support and assistance to me during the year under review.

Yours sincerely,

J. LL. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

M.O.H. Private Address Tel. No. Aberdare 680.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District (in acres) ....	....	....	....	....	....	15,183
Census Population (1951) ....	....	....	....	....	....	40,932
Registrar's estimated population ....	....	....	....	....	....	40,100
Number of inhabited houses (31st December, 1957) ....	....	....	....	....	....	12,594
Rateable Value (New Valuation List at 1st April, 1957) ....	....	....	....	....	....	£250,619
Sum represented by a penny rate ....	....	....	....	....	....	£911

VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth rate per 1,000 home population ....	....	....	....	....	....	15.7
Still births per 1,000 home population ....	....	....	....	....	....	0.42
Corrected death rate per 1,000 home population ....	....	....	....	....	....	14.92
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births ....	....	....	....	....	....	37.64
Neo. Natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ....	....	....	....	....	....	29.46
Phthisis death rate per 1,000 home population ....	....	....	....	....	....	0.074
Other Tuberculosis diseases death rate per 1,000 home population ....	....	....	....	....	....	No deaths recorded

DEATHS.

Deaths that actually occurred in the district ....	....	....	....	....	....	489
Local residents who died outside the area ....	....	....	....	....	....	112
Residents of other districts who died in the Aberdare Area ....	....	....	....	....	....	20
Corrected number of deaths ....	....	....	....	....	....	581

Five hundred and eighty-one deaths occurred among local residents giving a death rate of 14.92 per 1,000.

Death rate for 1956. 15.61.

Death rate for England and Wales for 1957 per 1,000 (crude) ....	....	....	....	....	....	11.59
For Glamorgan (Administrative County) ....	....	....	....	....	....	13.98
For Urban Districts ....	....	....	....	....	....	14.13
For Rural Districts ....	....	....	....	....	....	13.1

INFANT MORTALITY AND NEO MORTALITY, 1957.

Source.	Infant Mortality			Neo Natal Mortality	
	Deaths under one Year.	Rate per 1,000 live Births.	Deaths under four weeks.	Rate per 1,000 live Births.	
England and Wales	—	23.0	—	16.5	
Glamorgan County	380	31.45	263	21.77	
Urban Districts	290	32.86	202	22.89	
Rural Districts	90	27.65	61	18.74	
ABERDARE	23	37.64	18	29.46	
Some larger Glamorgan Districts :					
Barry	28	36.60	20	26.14	
Bridgend	13	46.76	8	28.78	
Caerphilly	21	31.53	15	22.52	
Maesteg	11	30.14	10	27.40	
Mountain Ash	23	44.23	15	28.85	
Neath Borough	13	28.89	7	16.09	
Neath Rural	15	24.71	13	21.42	
Pontypridd	17	29.06	11	18.80	
Port Talbot	35	38.93	22	24.47	
Rhondda Borough	45	26.88	34	20.31	

STILL BIRTHS.

The number of still-births registered was 17 of which 6 were males and 11 females. The still birthrate per 1,000 registered Live and Still Births being 27.07.

The following table shows the Infantile Mortality—Deaths under One Year. Rates per 1,000 Births, since 1898

Year.	England and Wales.	Aberdare	Year.	England and Wales.	Aberdare.
1898	160	227	1933	64	78
1899	163	241	1934	59	79
1900	154	164	1935	57	67
1901	151	234	1936	59	68
1902	133	169	1937	58	73
1903	132	174	1938	53	51
1904	145	239	1939	50	50
1905	128	199	1940	55	80
1906	132	209	1941	59	61
1907	118	134	1942	49	66
1908	120	212	1943	49	44
1909	109	127	1944	46	36
1910	105	151	1945	46	46
1911	130	187	1946	43	46
1912	95	114	1947	41	62
1913	108	172	1948	34	41
1914	105	99	1949	32	51
1915	110	140	1950 I.M.	29.8	33.85
1916	91	102	1950 N.N.M.	—	20.07
1917	96	91	1951 I.M.	29.6	54.28
1918	97	123	N.N.M.	18.8	37.83
1919	89	89	1952 I.M.	27.6	36.78
1920	80	98	N.N.M.	18.9	22.77
1921	83	104	1953 I.M.	26.8	30.80
1922	77	110	N.N.M.	17.7	25.36
1923	69	77	1954 I.M.	25.5	26.79
1924	75	84	N.N.M.	17.7	21.43
1925	75	95	1955 I.M.	24.9	32.67
1926	70	88	N.N.M.	17.3	25.41
1927	69	71	1956 I.M.	23.8	28.42
1928	65	91	N.N.M.	—	23.09
1929	74	98	1957 I.M.	23.0	37.64
1930	60	68	N.N.M.	16.5	29.46
1931	66	86			
1932	65	57			

(I.M.—Infant Mortality. No. of deaths under 1 year.
(N.N.M.—Neo Natal Mortality N. of deaths under 4 weeks.)

CAUSES OF DEATH.

			Male	Female	Total
All causes	....	....	339	242	581
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	....	....	1	2	3
Other Forms	....	....	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	....	....	—	—	—
Diphtheria	....	....	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	....	....	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	....	....	1	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	....	....	—	—	—
Measles	....	....	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	....	....	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm—stomach	....	....	8	5	13
lung-bronchus	....	....	9	1	10
Breast	....	....	—	4	4
uterus	....	....	—	5	5
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	....	....	22	13	35
Leukaemia-aleukaemia	....	....	1	—	1
Diabetes	....	....	2	6	8
Vascular lesions of nervous system	....	....	42	52	94
Coronary disease—angina	....	....	46	23	69
Hypertension with heart disease	....	....	8	4	12
Other heart disease	....	....	67	62	129
Other circulatory disease	....	....	8	5	13
Influenza	....	....	4	6	10
Pneumonia	....	....	12	9	21
Bronchitis	....	....	27	7	34
Other diseases of respiratory system	....	....	26	1	27
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	....	....	5	—	5
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	....	....	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	....	....	6	2	8
Hyperplasia of prostate	....	....	7	—	7
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	....	....	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	....	....	2	1	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	....	....	22	30	52
Motor Vehicle Accidents	....	....	1	—	1
All other accidents	....	....	8	2	10
Suicide	....	....	2	—	2
Homicide and operations of war	....	....	—	—	—

The following table shows the number of deaths from cancer in the area during the past five years :-

	1957			1956			1955			1954			1953		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Stomach	8	5	13	10	9	19	10	7	17	14	10	24	9	10	19
Lung bronchus	9	1	10	5	1	6	10	3	13	11	—	11	7	1	8
Breast	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	7	7	—	2	2	—	12	12
Uterus	—	5	5	—	3	3	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	6	6
Other	22	13	35	20	15	35	18	20	38	20	22	42	23	20	43
Totals	....39	28	67	35	32	67	38	41	79	45	38	83	39	49	88

LIVE BIRTHS.

Legitimate	....	....	Male 297	Female. 301	Total. 598
Illegitimate	....	....	4	9	13
			<u>301</u>	<u>310</u>	<u>611</u>

Birth rate per 1,000 home population being	....	....	....	15.7
1956 birth rate per 1,000 home population was	....	....	....	14.55
The birth rate for England and Wales being (crude)	....	....	....	16.1
The birth rate for Glamorgan (Administrative County)	....	....	....	16.5
The birth rate for Urban Districts being	....	....	....	16.32
The birth rate for Rural Districts being	....	....	....	16.35

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

The number of illegitimate births registered was 13 of which 4 were boys and 9 girls and no deaths occurred among these children,

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

During the year the following notifications were received :—

DISEASE.		MALE.	FEMALE.	TOTAL.
Scarlet Fever	....	2	3	5
Whooping Cough	....	17	24	41
Measles	....	183	169	352
Pneumonia	....	18	14	32
Dysentery (Sonne)	....	10	6	16
Erysipelas	....	1	1	2
Meningococcal Infection	....	1	1	2
Food Poisoning	....	5	4	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	....	—	11	11
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	—	1	1

The following table shows the incidence of notifications of confirmed infectious diseases during the past seven years :-

DISEASE.	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Diphtheria	—	—	1	2	4	4
Scarlet Fever	5	47	26	16	1	81
Whooping Cough	41	13	9	2	44	88
Measles	352	39	500	9	340	230
Paratyphoid	—	—	1	1	—	11
Dysentery (Sonne)	16	133	2	3	8	1
Food Poisoning	9	5	12	11	3	2
Meningococcal Infection	2	2	3	5	3	5
Erysipelas	2	3	4	2	3	6
Puerperal Pyrexia	11	14	5	15	7	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	1	—	2
Pneumonia	32	15	29	26	43	41
Poliomyelitis-Paralytic	—	1	3	—	1	7
Encephalitis Lethargica (Infective)	—	—	—	—	—	1

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

During 1957 no case of diphtheria was notified in my area.

ANNUAL REPORT OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATION
(CORRECTED).

Food Poisoning Notifications (corrected) returned to Registrar General 9

OUTBREAKS :-

Total outbreaks	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
Total cases due to outbreaks	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
Outbreaks due to (cause)	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil

SINGLE CASES.

Total number of known cases	....	....	....	....	....	....	9
Cases due to :-							
Positive salmonella typhi murium	....	....	....	....	....	2	
Unknown causes	....	....	....	....	....	7	

ADMISSIONS TO MARDY ISOLATION HOSPITAL,

MERTHYR TYDFIL, DURING 1957.

DISEASE.							No. of Cases
Diphtheria (Unconfirmed)	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Scarlet Fever	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Meningococcal infection (Confirmed & unconfirmed)	....	....	....	....	....	....	8
Poliomyelitis (Unconfirmed)	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Mumps	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Enteritis	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Measles	....	....	....	....	....	....	5
Dysentery	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Food Poisoning	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Paratyphoid (Unconfirmed)	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Whooping Cough	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Pyelitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Glandular Fever	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Observation	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Number of patients admitted during the year	....	....	....	....	....	....	45
Aggregate number of days spent by patients in hospital	....	....	....	....	....	....	970
Average number of days per patient	....	....	....	....	....	....	21.5

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 (Section 167. Sub. Sec. 4.)

Authority is given to Local Authorities under the above Section of the Public Health Act, 1936, to replace bedding soiled and suspected of containing infection after infectious disease.

No such replacement was made in my district during 1957.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 72.

No action was taken under this section, which empowers the Council to apply for an Order for the removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The number of new cases notified in 1957 was :-

Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	....	....	....	....	....	....	31
Meningitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Other forms	....	....	....	....	....	....	2

Total notified during the year 35

Cases of tuberculosis admitted to Sanatoria in 1957 56

Cases of tuberculosis discharged from Sanatoria in 1957 50

The following table gives the age and sex distribution of persons notified as suffering from tuberculosis and of those who have died from the disease :-

Age Periods	NEW CASES NOTIFIED.				DEATHS.			
	Respir- atory		Menin- gitis		Respir- atory		Menin- gitis	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 5	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
5 to 14	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 24	3	6	—	—	1	—	—
25 to 44	4	2	—	1	—	—	2
45 to 64	11	2	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	19	12	1	1	1	1	2

The following table shows the incidence of tuberculosis in the district for the past 20 years.

Year.	CASES NOTIFIED.		DEATHS NOTIFIED.	
	Respiratory.	Other Forms.	Respiratory.	Other Forms.
1938	63	16	26	11
1939	50	12	31	4
1940	68	15	30	4
1941	73	15	30	4
1942	60	17	20	6
1943	79	22	26	4
1944	85	14	30	5
1945	63	14	17	1
1946	64	13	24	2
1947	62	8	23	4
1948	57	9	17	1
1949	50	12	24	4
1950	51	12	22	2
1951	51	17	27	5
1952	44	2	11	1
1953	104	8	13	1
1954	74	10	9	5
1955	49	12	8	1
1956	25	5	6	1
1957	31	4	3	—

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of the Urban District Council is derived from seven sources. In six of these the water is treated, i.e. filtered and chlorinated, but is chlorinated only in the remaining source. In general the raw water from all sources is of an upland surface type and soft in character.

RESERVOIR.	CAPACITY IN GALLONS.	AREA SUPPLIED.
NANTHIR (Situated on the mountainside above Llwydcoed)	40,000,000	Llwydcoed, Ysguborwen, Graig Place, Abernant, Maesyffynon, Godreaman (West of Jubilee Road), Forge View area, North View Terrace, Cwmbach and lower part of Blaen- nantygroes.
NANTYMOEL (Situated on the mountainside above Llwydcoed)	67,000,000	Hoovers, Cables, Tre- cynon (Trefelin to Park Schools), Robertstown, Aberaman (Full Moon to Aberaman Colliery), Godreaman (East of Jubilee Rd), Abercwmboi
BWLLFA (Graig Storage Ponds) (Situated in the Bwllfa, Cwmdare Village)	7,000,000	Foundrytown, Davies- town, Town Centre, Maesydre, Gadlys, (to Park Grove), Plasdraw area, Sunnybank Street.
NANTAMANFACH (Situated in the hollow of the Hafod Wen mountain, Cwmaman).	100,000	Main supply of Cwmaman (to Woodland Terrace).
PWLLFA (Situated at Ffyrnant in the hollow of the Ffaldau and Coedcae mountains, Cwmaman)	300,000	Lowerpart of Cwmaman and Upper part of Godreaman to top of Jubilee Road.
TAF FECHAN WATER BOARD.		
Upper Neuadd	340,000,000	Croes Bychan, Hirwaun.
Lower Neuadd	74,000,000	Penywaun, Hirwaun Rd., Cwmdare.
Taf Fechan	3,400,000,000	Trecynon (Cemetery Park Lane, Llewellyn St.)
BLAENNANTYGROES TANK (Chlorinated only).	4,000	Blaennantygroes Road, (Top half).

Bacteriological and chemical analysis were made fortnightly on all sources of water supply.

A table showing the results of bacteriological and chemical tests on the filtered supplies is given below :—

Source of Supply.	No. of samples.	RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS.			RESULTS OF CHEMICAL TESTS.		
		Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	% Satisfactory.	No. of samples.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
NANTHIR RESERVOIR.							
Raw	23	—	—	—	23	19	—
... ...	23	22	1	95.6	23	—	3
Filtered	... ...	—	—	100	6	5	82.6
C.W.S.	... ...	6	6	—	—	—	83.3
Creamery	... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
NANTYMOEL RESERVOIR.							
Raw	23	—	—	—	23	—	—
... ...	23	22	1	95.6	23	18	5
Filtered	... ...	23	—	—	—	—	78.2
GRAIG STORAGE PONDS.							
Raw	24	—	—	—	24	—	—
... ...	24	24	—	—	24	24	—
Filtered	... ...	—	—	100	—	—	100.
PWLLFA RESERVOIR							
Raw	24	—	—	—	24	—	—
... ...	24	22	2	91.6	24	20	4
Filtered	... ...	24	—	—	—	—	83.3
NEUADD RESERVOIR.							
Filtered	... ...	142	128	14	90.1	142	—
NANTAMANFACH RESERVOIR.							
Raw	23	—	—	—	23	—	—
... ...	26	24	2	92.3	26	24	2
Filtered	... ...	—	—	—	—	—	92.3
BLAENNANTYGROES TANK							
... ...	24	22	2	91.6	24	24	—
OTHER SAMPLES							
... ...	7	—	7	0.0	7	5	2
Un-Filtered	... ...	—	—	—	—	—	71.4

There are three swimming baths and one paddling pool situated in the district administered by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department of the Council, viz. -

Swimming Bath and paddling pool at Aberdare Public Park.

Swimming bath at the Rock Grounds, Aberdare, and

Swimming bath at Michael's Field, Recreation Ground, Aberaman.

Samples are taken by the Public Health Inspectors from the baths when in use, and are submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination.

Source.	RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS.			RESULTS OF CHEMICAL TESTS.		
	No. of samples	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	% Satis- factory	No. of samples	% Satis- factory
ROCK BATHS.....						
Shallow End	11	10	1	90.9	11	8
Deep End	11	9	2	81.8	11	8
PARK BATHS.....						
Shallow End	12	11	1	91.6	12	10
Deep End	12	10	2	83.3	12	10
PARK PADDLING POOL	5	4	1	80.0	5	5
ABERAMAN BATHS	4	4	—	100.	4	3
Shallow End	4	4	—	100.	4	3
Deep End	4	4	—	100.	4	3

ROCK BATHS.....						
Shallow End	11	10	1	90.9	11	8
Deep End	11	9	2	81.8	11	8
PARK BATHS.....						
Shallow End	12	11	1	91.6	12	10
Deep End	12	10	2	83.3	12	10
PARK PADDLING POOL	5	4	1	80.0	5	5
ABERAMAN BATHS	4	4	—	100.	4	3
Shallow End	4	4	—	100.	4	3
Deep End	4	4	—	100.	4	3

RIVER POLLUTION.

While the scheme for neutralizing the effluent from the National Coal Board Middle Duffryn Power Station had not been commenced at the end of 1957, the condition of the River Cynon remained, relatively speaking, good. It still remained to be seen, however, whether, as was hoped, the completion of that scheme, in addition to improving the condition of the river would also improve its appearance.

A few difficulties, of a minor character compared with those which previously existed, arose during the year in connection with the operation of the Phurnacite Plant, Abercwmboi, but further reference is made to these in the separate section of this Report which deals with that installation.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

If the problems connected with the Phurnacite Plant are excluded, (and here they are, in fact, again reserved for separate treatment), there is not a lot to be said regarding those two other major sources of atmospheric pollution in the lower end of the Aberdare Valley, which have been dealt with in earlier Reports. These are, the coal dust from the coal drier at the Middle Duffryn Power Station, and the flue dust from the Aberaman Colliery stack.

As was briefly mentioned in my 1956 Report, the installation, in 1957, of an electrostatic precipitator at the former Plant was so completely successful as to be virtually one hundred per cent. effective in preventing the emission of coal dust to the atmosphere. It was, however, no surprise that the successful completion of this project failed to evoke any general reaction from the general public who remained, as will be seen below, clamant regarding the continuing problems of the Phurnacite Plant.

So far as the Aberaman Colliery stack was concerned, all that the year served to establish was that the mechanical cyclones, constructed some years ago to arrest the flue dust, would never be operated at this installation to a degree of efficiency which could be regarded as satisfactory. The National Coal Board were therefore impressed with the necessity either to discontinue producing the offending dust, or to deal effectively with it, (perhaps by the use of electrostatic precipitators), when it had been produced. The course which they ultimately adopted is a story to be told in next year's Report.

As was done for the first time last year, a table shewing the results of samples analysed from the atmospheric pollution measuring stations in Aberdare and Mountain Ash is included in this Report. These results continue to be submitted as well to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and the National Coal Board, as to the Two Council's immediately concerned. The warning given last year of the need to exercise caution in interpreting the results reported, is here repeated because of the number of variable factors involved, for example, the weather, and the relatively short period under review.

Phurnacite Plant.

If there has been little to say regarding other aspects of atmospheric pollution in the district, more than enough can be said regarding the Phurnacite Plant. Were every word of the story to be written, however, the reader would, it is thought, still be left with the clear impression that the position in 1957 was "Mixture as Before."

Indeed, the predominant note of the year was one of disappointment, not that everything which had been promised and programmed for the year was not carried out and completed, but because the final results were not more impressive in appearance. A sober examination of the achievements in this field, undertaken during the year, at a time when public complaint had reached what now appears to have been its peak shewed, however, the position to be as under.

So far as river pollution was concerned, whereas by the operation of the ammonia concentration plant and its ancillary settling ponds the crude ammonia liquor was being successfully excluded from the river, small quantities of oil were, from time to time, appearing there. This caused a disproportionate discolouration of the river, and disappointment on the part of those particularly concerned with this aspect of the problem, whilst there was a continuing suspicion that the settling ponds themselves were contributing to the smell nuisance primarily attributed to the fumes discharged from the Plant.

Further research in regard to the fume nuisance led to the construction by the Board, during the year, of an improved design for the fume washing plant which had been demonstrated at the end of the previous year. No one would be so foolish as to say that the time thus spent on such research was in any sense wasted, but this did mean that there was a rather longer delay than had been anticipated in the first battery of the Plant being fitted with one of these washers for regular operational use. A demonstration held at that stage appeared to confirm the conclusions reached on the occasion of the earlier inspection, that the use of this would certainly improve the appearance of the fumes, ameliorate the conditions of those employees working on the upper parts of the Plant, and apparently render the discharge innocuous from the standpoint of the major smell nuisance.

Progress had finally, undoubtedly been made in dealing with the dust nuisance. The Simon Carves precipitators incorporated in the new batteries were a conspicuous success, achieving, it was said, an efficiency of 99.93 per cent. in their official acceptance tests, and recovering a substantial and valuable quantity of coal returned for use in a smokeless fuel process. This was said to amount to well over three hundred tons per week under normal conditions, with two of the three production lines in operation. Small wonder that the manufacturers made their work at this Plant the subject of a special sales brochure!

But none of this last success was appreciated by the general public, since they had never known conditions without those particular precipitators, which came into operation concurrently with the extra batteries of the Plant in which they were installed. It is, in any event, cold comfort to be told how worse things would have been than the conditions being complained of,

if extensions had been carried out without efficient pollution prevention apparatus being, at the same time, installed. Moreover, the remaining precipitators which had been added to the batteries formerly in use were, at that time, subject to breakdowns which, while attributed to "teething troubles," were occurring all too frequently for real satisfaction. But most disappointing of all perhaps, the virtual disappearance of the dust from the coal driers at times when the precipitators were functioning efficiently, revealed further sources of pollution which previously had gone practically unnoticed in the heavier pollution from the coal driers. These were, it is thought, dust entrained in the steam liberated on the quenching of the hot ovoids in cold water, dust intermittently discharged from the tops of the ovens when being charged and, finally, dust from occasional leaks from the Briquetting Plant.

The foregoing assessment led to a series of meetings with the National Coal Board, Mountain Ash Urban District Council, the Alkali Inspectorate, and representative members of the general public resident in the area. What then, as a result of all this was the final position at the end of the year ?

In the first place, arrangements had been made for the settling ponds used in connection with the ammonia concentration plant to be kept under close observation, while further works had actually been completed, which retained the hot quenching water in a closed circuit so as to exclude its discharge into the River Cynon. In the second place, a programme of erection for the new fume washing equipment had been agreed which was designed to lead to the provision of these units on all the batteries to be kept in use at the end of 1958. Finally, efforts were continuing to be made to maintain the operation of all the precipitators and the uniformly high degree of efficiency ; and the experience of the Steel Industry in dealing with the major "new" sources of dust pollution was being sought. Generally, in conclusion, there was a welcome strengthening of the Council's contacts with the Alkali Inspectorate, whose interest in the problems of the Plant, which had at all times been keen and informed, was destined to become more immediate and direct with the advent of the new Clean Air legislation.

In closing my last Report, I quoted a poetic paraphrase for the repeated exhortations by a dissatisfied general public to the Council to maintain a constant watch upon events at the Plant. At the close of this year, containing quite a few disappointments, but containing grounds for real hope of a solution, a Miltonic reply might be appropriate :

"give not all for lost. From this descent
Celestial virtues rising, will appear more glorious
From no fall."

MEASUREMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

21

Below is a table of the results of analysis of samples of deposited matter collected from sites in the Aberdare and Mountain Ash areas. The figures denote estimated total solids in tons per square mile.

COLLECTING POINT.	MONTH OF COLLECTION—YEAR 1957.												
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
Aberdare & District Co-op. (Central)	26.75	20.77	27.11	7.75	12.49	10.30	16.62	14.36	14.33	19.20	17.72	33.79
Aman School, Godreman	37.32	61.01	44.03	8.09	17.96	16.98	21.21	33.35	20.47	20.60	16.38	39.17
Parry's Bakery, Abercwmboi	32.27	25.84	22.88	29.40	22.07	20.31	22.94	18.92	17.50	25.96	23.93	51.68
Duffryn Row, Cwmbach	63.32	47.11	47.87	12.17	25.48	29.03	37.16	25.14	37.74	43.62	20.01	30.41
Hibernian Club, Mountain Ash	34.06	38.46	28.69	8.92	27.98	19.43	26.90	31.97	23.88	34.94	27.33	39.92
Trawscoed, Aberdare Rd., Mountain Ash	26.54	40.37	31.17	10.71	34.57	30.23	43.39	43.72	32.11	40.94	32.62	48.35
Mounta in Ash Grammar School	25.67	36.61	24.86	12.05	23.83	21.24	25.51	38.35	33.28	34.09	31.18	45.49
Middle Duffryn Site	267.30	140.40	137.66	62.55	86.21	65.94	105.40	90.42	116.07	228.23	75.26	145.58

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

In my 1956 Annual Report I mentioned that the Local Authority had appointed one paid pupil and had accepted two pupils to undertake their practical training in an unpaid capacity.

I am pleased to report that during 1957, one of the pupils was successful in obtaining his Diploma in Public Health Inspection and has been appointed as a Public Health Inspector with the Local Authority.

During the year my Authority appointed an additional pupil in a paid capacity and there are now two paid pupils undertaking their practical training. Both the pupils will be sitting their examination for the Diploma in Public Health Inspection during 1959.

CINEMAS.

During the year the Health Committee approved certificates of fitness submitted by licensees with regard to First Aid, Fire Fighting,etc., and electrical installations. The Certificates showed a satisfactory position.

The greatest possible liaison exists between the Fire Prevention Officer of the Glamorgan Fire Service, and the Local Authority with regard to cinema supervision.

The Public Health Inspectors continued their routine inspections of all cinemas in the district and on the whole, the sanitary conveniences were kept in a reasonably satisfactory condition.

LICENSED PREMISES—HYGIENE.

The Public Health Officers continued their routine inspections of all licensed premises in the district. As a result of the visits of the Public Health Inspectors, living conditions for the licensees and their families were improved in several cases.

Similar to past reports, I have to state that the greatest liaison exists between the Licensing Justices, the Superintendent of Police and the Public Health Department, with regard to the hygiene and inspection of licensed premises in the district.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The scavenging and road cleansing of the whole area is undertaken by the Council's own staff under the supervision of the Council's Engineer. Road gulleys are now emptied by a mechanical gully emptier and all refuse of the district is collected by mechanically propelled freighters.

The official tipping sites in the area during the year were situated at :-

Shop Houses Site, Llwydcoed.

Ynys Site, Aberdare.

The public sanitary conveniences were maintained in a fairly good condition during the year, but wilful damage continued at several conveniences in the outlying districts.

The Public Health Inspectors continued to investigate complaints relating to the conveniences, to the indiscriminate tipping of refuse in back lanes and watercourses and to the creating of unofficial tips on waste ground.

RODENT CONTROL.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

During the year, work on the destruction of rats and mice was continued under N.S. 21 Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Infestation Division), and two operators were employed full time by the Council.

The operators also carried out two maintenance treatments of the sewers in the area during the year.

Particulars of other treatments carried out during the year will be found below :-

Number of treatments—

Dwelling-houses	....	....	....	....	....	514
Local Authority premises	....	....	....	....	....	5
Business premises (the total cost of which is fully recoverable)	....	....	....	....	....	88
					Total	607

Particulars of treatments using Warfarin :-

RAT BAITS.

MICE BAITS.

Total Bait Laid.	Total Bait Taken.	Bait Laid.	Bait Taken.
7,753 ozs.	3,396 ozs.	5,078 ozs.	3,295 ozs

Particulars of treatments using other poison Nil.

SEWER TREATMENTS.

The two treatments of the sewers in the area carried out during 1957 consisted of baiting the manholes twice at weekly intervals using a bait made up as follows :-

85% Pinhead Oatmeal, 5% Mineral Oil, 5% Sugar, 5% Warfarin, 0.25% Para-nitro-phenol.

Some brief particulars of the treatments are given below :-

FIRST TREATMENT.

Number of Manholes	Number Baited	Number of Complete and Good Takes	No. of Small Takes	No. of No Takes	No. of Manholes Flooded
790	504	82	10	412	5

SECOND TREATMENT.

790	623	65	18	540	6
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SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

The slaughterhouse is under the management of the Fatstock Marketing Corporation Limited and serves the Aberdare and Mountain Ash Areas. The number of animals slaughtered during the year was 22,952. All the carcasses were examined and the details of the inspections made are indicated below.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Number killed	2,058	316	758	15,082	4,728
Number inspected....	2,058	316	758	15,082	4,728
All diseases EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	1	8	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was destroyed	325	109	—	359	121
Percentages of the numbers inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	15.8	31.3	0.1	23	2.6
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcasses condemned	8	2	—	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	36	24	—	—	181
Percentages of the numbers inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.4	8.2	—	—	3.9
CYSTICERCOSIS.					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

UN SOUND FOOD.

Food of the above description condemned as unfit for human consumption amounted to 10 tons, 4 cwts., 12lbs.

The amount condemned at the Slaughterhouse was 22,860 lbs., which consisted of:-

Beef	....	....	....	....	....	6,337	lbs.
Beef Offal	....	....	....	....	....	7,915	"
Veal	....	....	....	....	....	41	"
Veal Offal	....	....	....	....	....	8	"
Mutton	....	....	....	....	....	300	"
Mutton Offal	....	....	....	....	....	1,166	"
Pork	....	....	....	....	....	1,457	"
Pork Offal	....	....	....	....	....	682	"
						17,906	lbs.
Miscellaneous articles of food condemned in stores, shops, etc.	....	....	....	....	....	4,954	lbs.
						22,860	lbs.

CONDEMNED FOOD.

Condemned and diseased carcase meat and other inedible offals were disposed of to bona fide dealers in this kind of material where it is properly processed for various purposes. Other condemned foodstuff which could not be returned to suppliers or used for processing purposes was disposed of with proper care in the local authority's refuse tips. The tips are under regular inspection by the Public Health Inspectors.

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The Public Analyst of the Public Health Laboratory Service, The Parade, Cardiff, undertakes bacteriological and chemical examinations for the Local Authority.

During the year, 100 specimens were sent by the Health Department and local General Practitioners. These included throat and nose swabs, faecese, etc..

FOOD AND DRUGS AUTHORITY.

The Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the District, and during the year, the number of samples taken and submitted to the Public Analyst, approximated to one sample per 158 members of the population.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

The number of samples taken during the year for qualitative analysis was 253, comprising 75 milks and 178 other foods.

Of the 253 samples examined, 3 were found to be adulterated or otherwise unsatisfactory, being 1.18 per cent of the whole.

The reports on the unsatisfactory samples and the result of the action taken are indicated below :-

No. of Sample	Commodity.	Formal or Informal	Nature of adulteration or irregularity.	Action taken.
63A.	Pork Sausage	Informal	Low Meat content, 57%	The meat content was lower than that usually found in Pork Sausages. Manufacturer advised.
122A.	Bread.	Informal.	Contained dark streaky oily matter.	Bakery visited and owner warned.
128A.	Chocolate.	Informal.	Infested with moth larvae. (Ephestia).	Consignment of chocolate voluntarily surrendered.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of Licences issued to Sterilizing Plants	....	....	....	1
Number of Licences issued to Pasteurising Plants. (One Pasteurising plant closed voluntarily, February, 1957).	....	....	....	2
Number of Dealers' Licenses authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised"	....	....	....	22
Number of Dealers' Licences issued authorising the use of the Special Designation "Sterilized"....	....	....	....	13

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of Dealers' Licences issued authorising the use of the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	23
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REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Fifty-seven samples of pasteurised milk were taken during the year for bacteriological examination, and all were found to be satisfactory.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of Dairies registered previously ....	....	....	....	....	11
Number of Dairies registered during 1957 ....	....	....	....	....	1
			Total	....	12

EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR TUBERCLE BACILLI.

Twenty-six samples of milk were taken in the district for examination for tubercle bacilli. Twenty-five samples showed tubercle bacilli to be absent and one sample was found to be positive for tubercle bacilli.

ICE CREAM.

All the shops and premises where ice cream is sold and prepared for sale were inspected by the Public Health Inspectors during the year. Vehicles used for the sale of ice cream were also inspected and kept under observation.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations prescribe the method by which ice cream is manufactured and the occupiers of all registered premises within the district are aware of the requirements of these regulations, and I am pleased to report that any suggestions made have readily been complied with.

During the year it has been noticed that there appears to be a tendency towards the increased sale of pre-packed ice cream in the area.

During the year, seven new applications were received for the registration of premises for the purpose of the sale of ice cream and all were granted.

Twelve samples of ice cream were taken during the year for qualitative examination.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT - SECTION 16.

Number of premises registered for manufacture of ice cream prior to 1957	17
Number of premises registered for manufacture of ice cream during 1957	—
	—
Number of premises or vehicles registered for the sale of ice cream prior to 1957	104
Number registered during 1957	7
	—
	111

FOOD HYGIENE.

On the 1st January, 1956, the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, came into operation. This Act repeals the Food and Drugs (Amendment) Act, 1954. Under the provisions of Section 13 of the 1955 Act, the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, were made and these Regulations also came into operation on the 1st January, 1956.

The Public Health Inspectors continued in their work of education in Food Hygiene, together with the inspection and supervision of premises involved in the handling, preparing and the storage of food.

During the year the Public Health Inspectors continued to give advice and talks to food trade employers and employees. As Medical Officer of Health, I gave several talks to interested organisations.

SUMMARY OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE AREA.

Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	88
General Provisions	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Cake and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Public Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
						Total	320

TYPE OF SHOP.

Lock-up shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	147
Parlour shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Other shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
						Total	320

New shops opened during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Shops closed during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of inspections of registered food premises carried out during 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	552

As in previous years, I have to report that the general standard both of the lay-out and maintenance of the shops within the area is on the whole satisfactory and all the larger shops are provided with adequate facilities for the maintenance of a good standard of hygiene.

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR HEALTH EDUCATION.

An annual contribution is made to the Central Council for Health Education whereby the services of this organisation are made available and utilised.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF COUNCIL EMPLOYEES.

During the year, fifty-three persons have been medically examined involving sixty-two examinations and medical reports. The examinations were for the purposes of the Council's Superannuation Scheme, applications for Breakdown Pensions and the Council's Sick Scheme.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 to 1951.

(a) **Care of the Aged.**

I have to report that similar to past years, the Department continued to co-operate with Family Doctors, Hospital Medical Officers, and the staff of the Divisional Health Office, the Assistance Board and the Aberdare Old People's Welfare Committee, which is a voluntary organisation, in furthering the welfare in general of elderly people in the area.

(b) **Removal of suitable premises. (Section 47).**

No action was taken by the Council under this provision of the Act during the year.

Several cases were found to be in need of care and attention and were persuaded to enter institutions voluntarily.

(c) **Burial of the Dead. (Section 50).**

Under the provisions of the Act, during the year the cost of burying two persons was accepted by the Local Authority.

GENERAL HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

OF THE DISTRICT.

1. **Services provided by the Glamorgan County Council.**(a) **Maternity and Child Welfare, Midwifery, Home Nursing, Home Help, Distribution of Welfare Foods, Issuing of Sick Room Requisites, School Medical and Health Visiting.**

These services are administered by the Divisional Medical Officer, Headquarters—Divisional Health Office, New Clinic Building, Rock Grounds, Aberdare. Tel. No. Aberdare 441.

(b) **Mental Health Services.**

The duly authorised officers for this area are :-

Miss H. B. Brown, 400 Grand Avenue, Ely, Cardiff.

Mr. J. C. Seaman, 32 The Crystals, Heath, Cardiff
Tel. No. Cardiff 52398.

(c) **Ambulance Service.**

The Ambulance Station for this area is situated at :-

Hawthorn, Rhydyfelin, Pontypridd, Glam.

Tel. No. Pontypridd 2522.

(d) **Welfare Service.**

Officers of the Welfare Service are available to offer advice and assistance to those in need of hostel accommodation, the blind and the handicapped. The local office for this area is at :-

Area Office, Llewellyn Street, Treccynon, Aberdare, Glam.
Tel. No. Aberdare 318.

(e) Children's Department :-

The office of the Children's Department of the County Council is at 33 to 36 Adam Street, Cardiff. Tel. No. 31696 to 231698.

There is, however, working in this district, a Children's Visitor :-
Miss Payne, c/o Children's Department, Courthouse Street, Pontypridd.
Tel. No. Pontypridd 2275.

(f) Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages :-

This area comes under the Pontypridd District and the Superintendent's Office is at Courthouse Street, Pontypridd, Glam.
Tel. No. Pontypridd 3122.

The Local Registrar is Mr. Dilwyn Jones,
Registrar's Office, 21 Cardiff Street, Aberdare.
Tel. No. Aberdare 208.

(g) Probation Officers :-

The address of the Principal Probation Officer is at St. Catherine's Chamber, Mill Street, Pontypridd, Glam.
Tel. No. Pontypridd 2157.

For this area the Probation Officers are :-

Mr. Emlyn Evans and Miss E. Parker,
Probation Officers Office, 21 Cardiff Street, Aberdare.
Tel. No. Aberdare 201.

(h) Youth Employment Bureau.

The Youth Employment Officer for the area is Mr. W. V. McCarthy,
Youth Employment Bureau, Wind Street, Aberdare, Glam.
Tel. No. Aberdare 595.

2. Hospital Services provided by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board.

Hospital facilities for this area are administered by the Merthyr and Aberdare Hospital Management Committee. The office of this Committee is at St. Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.

Tel. No. Merthyr 900.

The following is a list of the hospitals and clinics used by residents of the area :-

Aberdare General Hospital, Abernant, Aberdare, Glam.
Tel. No. Aberdare 711.

Fedw Hir Convalescent Hospital, Llwydcoed, Aberdare, Glam.
Tel. No. Aberdare 612.

Mountain Ash General Hospital, Caegarw, Mountain Ash, Glam.
Tel. No. Mountain Ash 2213.

Mardy Isolation Hospital Merthyr Tydfil, Glam. (For Infectious Diseases).
Tel. No. Merthyr 230.

Pontsarn Chest Hospital, Pontsarn, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam. (For Infectious Diseases).
Tel. No. Dowlais 78.

St. Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.
Tel. No. Merthyr 900.

Merthyr General Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.
Tel. No. Merthyr 864.

Chest Clinic at 42 High Street, Aberdare, Glam.
Tel. No. Aberdare 640.
(This clinic is available on Monday and Thursday mornings).

3. Services provided by Government Departments.

(a) Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance,
Central Office (Wales), Government Buildings,
St. Agnes Road, Gabalfa, Cardiff.
Tel. No. Cardiff 33051.

Local Office is at 4 Victoria Square, Aberdare, Glam.
Tel. No. Aberdare 541.

(b) Pneumoconiosis Medical Panel :-
The office is situated at the East Entrance, Prudential Building,
Cathays Park, Cardiff.
Tel. No. Cardiff 26161.

(c) National Assistance Board :-

The Area Office for this district is at Glanynys, Cwmbach Road,
Aberdare, Glam.
Tel. No. Aberdare 343.

(d) Ministry of Labour and National Service :-

Employment Exchange, Monk Street, Aberdare, Glam.
Tel. No. Aberdare 383.

4. General Practitioner Services :-

This service is provided by the Glamorgan Executive Council,
(National Health Council), 47 Park Place, Cardiff.
Tel. No. Cardiff 26216.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Below are details of habitable dwelling houses in the area as at the 31st December, 1957.

Pre-War Private houses in the Area ....	....	....	....	10,603
Pre-War local authority houses in the area ....	....	....	....	576
Pre-War local authority miscellaneous houses in the area ....	....	....	....	28
				<hr/>
Post-War private (51) and police (20) houses in the area ....	....	....	....	11,207
Post-War local authority houses in the area ....	....	....	....	71
				<hr/>
Total ....	....	....	....	1,316
				<hr/>
	....	....	....	12,594
				<hr/>

During the Post-War period to the 31st December, 1957, the number of dwelling-houses closed as unfit for human habitation—134 houses (19 during 1957).

LOCAL AUTHORITY DWELLING-HOUSES.

The number of houses on the Council pre-war estates are as follows :-

Trefelin, Trecynon ....	....	....	....	140	houses.
Trenant, Hirwaun ....	....	....	....	132	"
Tre Ifor, Llwydcoed ....	....	....	....	106	"
Treneol, Cwmaman ....	....	....	....	72	"
Wenallt Road, Abernant ....	....	....	....	40	"
Tre Telynog, Cwmbach ....	....	....	....	26	"
Old Penywaun, Penywaun ....	....	....	....	24	"
Cerdinen Terrace, Cwmbach ....	....	....	....	18	"
Trewaun, Hirwaun ....	....	....	....	18	"
				<hr/>	
Local Authority miscellaneous ....	....	....	....	576	
				<hr/>	
	....	....	....	28	
				<hr/>	
	....	....	....	604	houses.
				<hr/>	

The number of post-war houses and flats occupied on the Council's estates as at 31st December, 1957, is as follows :-

Site.	Brick	Steel	Bung-	Con-	Cornish	Wool-	Shop	Greg-	Totals.
			allows	crete	Unit	away	Flats	Flats	
Penywaun	178	96	132	352	—	—	—	6	764
Abernant	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Cwmbach	30	—	—	242	112	42	—	—	426
Ty Fry	—	—	—	—	—	52	68	—	120
Totals	208	96	138	594	112	94	68	6	1,316

No Council Houses were erected during 1957.

The number of Council owned houses at 31/12/57, being :-

Pre 1939 War estates ....	....	....	....	576	houses.
Pre-War 1939 miscellaneous ....	....	....	....	28	"
Post-War Estates ....	....	....	....	1,316	"
				<hr/>	
	....	....	....	1,920	"

ALLOCATION OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

Due to difficulties in obtaining suitable building sites in the area, the building of Council houses has practically ceased and the position is creating great concern to the applicants for housing accommodation.

Below you will find a table of 824 applicants (divided into Tenants and Sub-Tenants) for Council houses at the 31st December, 1957.

TENANTS.

Ward.	With 3 or more children	With 2 children	With 1 child over ten	With 1 child under 10	With No children	T.B.	Totals
1	14	17	9	9	10	2	61
2	7	8	6	7	12	—	40
3	7	8	7	2	19	—	43
4	12	24	22	5	20	4	87
5	31	15	20	5	14	9	94
Totals	71	72	64	28	75	15	325

SUB-TENANTS.

1	11	25	8	53	24	2	123
2	3	9	5	18	14	1	50
3	4	9	3	24	9	3	52
4	5	17	5	28	17	1	73
5	15	27	7	29	20	8	106
Totals	38	87	28	152	84	15	404

Tenants	....	....	....	....	....	....	325
Sub-tenants	....	....	....	....	....	....	404
							—
						Total	729
Applications from outside A.U.D.C. Area....	....	....	....	....	....	....	95
							—
Total Applications	....	....	....	....	....	....	824
							—

During November, a survey was carried out of all applicants for council houses and as a result of the survey, 407 applicants were removed from the Register as not being in need of a council house

HOUSING REPAIRS.

I have to report similar to past years that housing repairs during the year have not been without their unsolved problems of getting landlords to undertake repairs. Continued efforts by the Public Health Inspectors to improve the conditions of the older properties have resulted in a substantial number of houses being attended to, although it has been necessary to resort to formal action in some cases.

The high cost of labour and materials continues to make the task of enforcing housing repairs, especially in the case of the lower rented properties a most difficult one to deal with.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING 1957.

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under the Housing Act and Public Health Act.	300
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	954
(c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state of danger or injurious to health, as to be unfit for human habitation	15
(d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	250

2. REMEDY OF EFFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES. 118

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(1) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1936 & 1957.

(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	58
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice	
(1) By Owners	36
(2) By Local Authority in default of Owners	5

(2) Proceedings under the Public Health Act :-

(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	111
(b) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-	
(1) By Owners....	80
(2) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—

4. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936, AND SECTIONS 16 & 17 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957. 15

5. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 AND SECTION 18 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957 Nil.

6. HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954. SECTION 1.

In my 1956 Annual Report, I reported that the Local Authority had submitted to the Ministry, proposals for dealing with houses within the district, which appeared to the Authority to be unfit for human habitation and ought to be included for demolition.

In the Report, I stated that 178 houses were considered as unfit then and 455 houses were considered to be likely to become unfit in the next five years. Since submitting the proposals to the Minister, 12 of the houses in the first group and 7 in the second group have been demolished.

To give effect to the proposals, during the inspection of the properties in the Town, the following points were taken into consideration as specified in Section 9 of the Act :-

A. Repair.	B. Stability.
C. Freedom from Damp.	D. Natural Lighting.
E. Ventilation.	F. Water Supply.
G. Drainage and Sanitary conveniences.	H. facilities for storage, preparation and cooking of food and disposal of waste water.

7. CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

One application for a certificate of disrepair was received under the above Act, but the application was not granted.

Rent Act, 1957. First Schedule.

Period covered by return—6th July, 1957 to 31st December, 1957.

Part 1. Applications for Certificates of disrepair.

(1) Number of applications for certificates	....	....	....	69
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	....	....	....	Nil
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates	....	....	....	66
a. in respect of some but not all defects	....	....	....	33
b. in respect of all defects	....	....	....	33
(4) Number of Undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	....	....	....	8
(5). Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	....	....	....	Nil
(6) Number of certificates issued	....	....	....	41

Part II. Applications for Cancellation of Certificates.

No applications were received during the period from landlords for the cancellation of certificates.

8. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS. HOUSING ACT, 1949. HOUSING REPAIRS & RENTS ACT, 1954. RENT ACT, 1957.

I have to report that during 1957, applications for improvement grants had been received from 49 applicants.

Since January 1955, when my Council decided to implement these provisions, £9,365 4s. 11d. has been approved to 117 applicants up to the 31st December, 1957.

9. ACTION ON HOUSES UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION.
HOUSING ACT, 1936-1957.

During 1957.	Demolition Orders served	....	....	9
	Closing Orders served	....	....	5
	Undertakings accepted	....	....	1

Occupants from six of the above properties have been rehoused by the Local Authority.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. SECTION 266. MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Occupied caravans, etc., continue to make their appearance in different parts of the area and efforts are being made to ensure that they comply with the appropriate legislation. No caravan site has been approved by the Council.

J. LI. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK DONE BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTORS DURING THE YEAR.

Number of houses and premises inspected	457
Number of houses and premises re-visited	954
Number of notices served—preliminary	250
Number of notices served—statutory	169
Number of houses repaired	190
Closets cleansed or repaired	39
Flushing tanks renewed	30
New closets erected to existing buildings	15
Yards paved or repaired	30
Defective house roofs repaired	156
Defective walls repaired	143
Defective chimneys repaired	98
Defective ceilings repaired	110
Defective floors repaired	89
Defective doors repaired or renewed	83
Defective windows repaired or renewed	135
Defective fireplaces repaired or renewed	95
Defective ovens renewed	52
New eaves-gutters and downpipes fixed	132
Accumulations or refuse removed	18
Other nuisances abated	39
Number of milk samples taken for examination	127
Number of water samples taken for bacteriological examination	467
Number of water samples taken for chemical examination	466
Number of verminous houses inspected	37
Number of samples taken for food and drugs examination	253
Number of infectious disease cases investigated	388

DISINFECTION.

Number of houses fumigated after infectious disease	...	...	...	51
Number of articles disinfected	...	...	...	1508
Number of articles destroyed	...	...	...	10

DRAIN TESTING.

Number of drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
Number of drains found defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Number of drains relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Number of drains cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	61

BAKEHOUSES.

LODGINGHOUSES.

Number on Register 1
Number of visits of inspection.... 12

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Number on register	....	....	....	....	....	12
Number of visits of inspection	....	....	....	....	....	64
Number of defects remedied	....	....	....	....	....	4

SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

Number of visits	....	....	....	....	481
Number of animals slaughtered	....	....	....	....	22952
Number of animals inspected	....	....	....	....	22952
Meat condemned at slaughterhouse	....	....	....	....	17906 lbs.
Other foods condemned	....	....	....	....	4954 lbs.

FACTORIES.

		No. on Register	Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Prose- cutions
(1)	Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	....	50	50	2
(2)	Factories not included in above which section 7 is enforced by the authority	....	69	58	2
(3)	Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers Premises)	—	—	—	—
	Totals	119	108	4	—

Cases in which defects were found :-

		Found	Reme- died	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prose- cutions
Want of cleanliness	....	2	2	—	—
Overcrowding	....	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	....	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	....	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	....	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :-					
(a) In sufficient	....	3	3	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	....	3	3	3	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	....	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (Not relating to Outwork)	....	1	1	1	—
	Totals	9	9	6	—

Number of Outworkers Nil

D. RICHARDS,

Senior Public Health Inspector.



